

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application is requested. Claims 1 and 4-11 will be active in the application subsequent to entry of this Amendment.

It is proposed to amend the claims in order to more particularly point out and distinctly claim that which applicants regard as their invention. Specifically, it is proposed to amend claims 1, 4 and 8 to specify that the film is made from silica and the reaction product of a fluorocomplex. As a consequence, claim 2 has been deleted as the fluorocomplex mentioned in claim 2 is now incorporated into claim 1. These materials are discussed at page 5, lines 5 through 14 of the specification and elsewhere. New claims 10 and 11 are directed to two specific fluorocomplexes as disclosed in the specification at page 5, line 8. Accordingly, these claim amendments find basis in the original description of the invention and entry of this Amendment would serve to advance examination if not place all claims in condition for allowance.

In addition, the examiner considers "bonded by vulcanization" to be "a process in a product claim and is given little patentable weight". Therefore, in order to advance examination the claims are amended to revert to the previously used term "formed".

Claim 7 stands as being rejected as anticipated by Inoue U.S. 5,743,971. Claims 1, 2, 4-6 and 8 are rejected as allegedly being "obvious" over the published U.S. application of Matsuzaki, while claims 1, 2, 8 and 9 are rejected as allegedly being unpatentable over Inoue (mentioned above), in view of U.S. 6,502,830 to Teranishi.

A careful review of the documents cited and applied in the Official Action reveal that none of them relate to reaction products of a fluorocomplex and a metal or a compound of the metal as specified in the independent claims of this application. As the references applied are silent as to this point there is no anticipation nor are applicants' claims as above amended rendered obvious.

Reconsideration, entry of this Amendment, and allowance are solicited. Should the examiner require further information, please contact the undersigned by telephone.

SAITO, H. et al.
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Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: _____



Arthur R. Crawford
Reg. No. 25,327

ARC:eaw
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 22203-1808
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100